AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph on page 28, line 23 through page 29, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

A preferred alphavirus for use in the present invention is Venezuelan equine encephalitis (VEE) virus. Preferably, the VEE strain used in producing the ARPs contains at least one attenuating mutation. On representative class of such attenuating mutations were first designed as "rapid-penetration" mutants (Johnston and Smith, *Virology* 162: 437-443, 1988), many of which were later shown to carry mutations in the E2 glycoprotein that resulted in a net positive charge (Davis et al., *Virology* 183:20-31, 1991) and also conferred an enhanced ability to bind glycosaminoglycans, e.g. heparan sulfate (see also Klimstra, WB et al. ~~1998~~ *J. Virol.* 72: 7357-7366, 1998; Bernard et al., *Virology* 276: 93-103, 2000). Similar mutations are known in other alphaviruses, e.g. Sindbis (Olmsted et al., *Virology* 148:245, 1986; Davis et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 83: 6771, 1986); a specifically exemplified heparin-binding, attenuated VEE mutant is strain 3014. The viruses, or ARPs derived therefrom, that carry mutations conferring glycosaminoglycan-binding ability are particularly well suited for purification using the salt wash step, and they can also be further purified using heparin affinity chromatography.